(b) Slaughter houses function under the administrative control of Local Bodies/Panchayats. The number of animals slaughtered in recognized slaughter houses is fixed and actual number of animals slaughtered is recorded by the licensing authority. The State Governments have their own Animal Preservation and Slaughter Control Acts in operation to prevent slaughter of conceived cattle and milch cattle in legal slaughter houses.

(c) There is no shortage of Livestock in the country. India is having the largest number of Iviestock including cattle and buffaloes in the world.

Under the current EXIM policy, export of buffalo, sheep and goat meat is allowed as "free terms" and export of beef is "prohibited".

Assistance to fishermen housing scheme of Bihar

†3362. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that houses are not being constructed by Government for the fishermen in Bihar as half of the expenditure to be shared by State Government is not being given;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing full amount by the Central Government; and

(c) the details of the fund, provided by Government for the construction of houses for fishermen in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, cost of construction of fishermen houses (Rs. 40000 per unit) is shared by the Central Government and the State Governments including the State of Bihar on 50:50 basis. Further, fisheries is a State subject to State Governments are primarily responsible for its development. However, Central Government extends financial assistance through various schemes including Welfare Scheme of Fishermen to supplement their efforts.

(c) The Central assistance under the Welfare Scheme is extended to the States for construction of fishermen houses on receipt of proposals. A sum of Rs. 98.79 lakh has been provided to Government of Bihar towards Central share for construction of 505 fishermen houses and to provide basic amenities during the period 2002-03 to 2005-06 (till December 16,2005).

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.